

Vol. 13 No. 2 Winter 1999

# REDEEMER Images

REDEEMER COLLEGE LIBRARY  
Redeemer College  
IMAGES  
PER/LH/3/.I63

SEP 22 1999

## Art & the Christian Artist

Retroactivity approved  
Break-through for the sciences

MAIL POSTE

Canada Post Corporation/Canada Post

Permit No.

100

ISSN 0892-49

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER



# Reclaiming the arts for the Kingdom



Dr. Justin Cooper  
President

In this issue we are pleased to be able to present a focus on the fine arts, and in particular the visual arts, which is a real area of strength and emphasis for Redeemer College. As you read the features in this issue of *Images*, you may well be surprised at what Redeemer has to offer in the visual arts.

Often in the Christian community we find that the fine arts do not receive the attention and emphasis that they deserve when compared to other areas of academic endeavour. By contrast, the fine arts are well represented in our curriculum, which includes majors in music and theatre arts, as well as in the visual arts. In fact, across Canada only at Redeemer will you find a Christian university education which offers this range of possibilities for study in the fine arts.

This stems in part from our emphasis on providing a Christian liberal arts education. One of the strengths of this kind of an academic program is its encyclopedic approach. The full range of disciplines is included in our liberal arts core curriculum, thereby exposing students to the diversity of God's creation during the course of their studies. In this way, they come to appreciate the uniqueness and interrelatedness of the various dimensions of God's handiwork. But the presence of the fine arts in our academic program also has to do with our determination to offer a well-rounded set of majors and with our intent give an appropriate place on our campus to God's gifts of artistic and creative ability. In particular, the visual arts present a powerful means of expression which must be harnessed in praise and service of our Lord.

In our contemporary culture in which religion is not taken seriously, those who fear that our scientific-technological prowess

threatens to undermine our humanity often look to artistic ability and the aesthetic dimension of life in order to reconnect with spiritual realities and regain a transcendent meaning. In reaction to such claims, Christians may withdraw from art out of fear of being caught up in a false spirituality or else react by using art only for devotional or evangelistic purposes.

Over against such views, at Redeemer College we are busy working to rediscover the proper place and calling of the sanctified imagination as one of God's created gifts. We seek to provide our students with a basic training which can lead to professional work in art and art-related fields, so that students who are called to be artists can be busy in the wider artistic community, reclaiming this area of cultural endeavour through their artistic and spiritual impact.

As with all of the disciplines in our curriculum, the study of art is rooted in a biblical perspective of Christ's redemption of and Lordship over all of creation. At the same time, under the leadership of Prof. Betty Spackman, the art department provides a close-knit sense of community and one-on-one attention by instructors, which enables students to develop their unique gifts and personal mode of expression. For more information about the art program at the college, please check out the art department's home page, which should be online in the college's web site sometime this month.

To enrich the study and expression of visual art, each year the college also invites a number of professional artists, usually from the Christian community, to exhibit their works in the college's art gallery. This enables art students to interact with and be

challenged by mature and gifted artists and also provides an opportunity for the college community to enjoy the visual stimulation of quality art works. The gallery is also open to the public as a service to the wider community.

This year the experience of the students who are working in the visual arts has been enhanced by the presence of a special guest—Artist-in-Residence Matth Cupido, about whom you will read in this issue's cover story. Matth's living on campus has allowed students to watch and interact with him, thereby gaining new insight into how a Christian artist goes about his craft. Previously, Matth also designed and painted two murals, based on passages from Psalm 46:4 and Isaiah 55:12-13, which grace the halls of the main academic building of the college.

Over the years, the college has been the recipient of other very impressive works of art which are also displayed in the hallways of the academic building. Among those who have produced these works are well known Christian artists Henk Krijger and Chris Stoffel Overvoorde. Interestingly, as you walk the halls you will note that most of the pieces of art are inspired by passages and characters of the Old Testament.

Altogether, Redeemer College provides a rich environment for students interested in pursuing the visual arts, or the fine arts in general. We are thankful to be able to include this area of creative endeavour in the range of disciplines in our academic program. And we look forward to the continued growth and development of the visual arts in the service of Jesus Christ, both at Redeemer College and in the Christian community at large.



**i** Winter 1999  
Vol. 13  
No. 2

**EDITORS:**

Tim Wolfert '87  
David Raakman

**DESIGN:**

David Raakman

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Al Bakker '90, Corina Bos '94, Charity  
Farenhorst, Carolyn Mount, Corine  
Vreugdenhil-Witteveen '96

**EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD:**

Arlene Heidbuurt '88, David VanBelle '93,  
Mark Van Beveren.

images is published three times per year by the Community & Media Relations Department of Redeemer College in conjunction with the Alumni Association. Ideas and opinions expressed in *Images* may not necessarily reflect those of the editors, the Alumni Association or the college. Letters and editorial comments are welcomed. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content or brevity.

Editorial communications can be sent to:  
The Editor, *Images*, 777 Garner Rd. E.,  
Ancaster, ON, L9K 1J4.

Tel: (905) 648-2131 ext. 292

Fax: (905) 648-2134

E-mail: [images@redeemer.on.ca](mailto:images@redeemer.on.ca)

Website: [www.redeemer.on.ca/alumni/images](http://www.redeemer.on.ca/alumni/images)

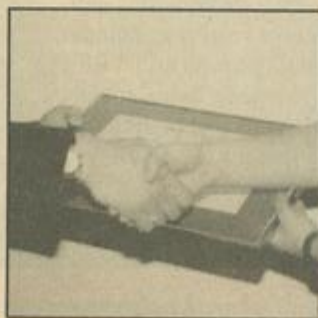


**Redeemer  
College**

**COVER:**

Christian artist Matth Cupido poses with one of his newest paintings entitled "Table Talk." It is the feature piece at Cupido's art exhibition which opens April 1 in the Redeemer College Art Gallery. The background image is the mural Cupido painted in 1996.

*Photos by David Raakman*



• REDEEMER  
**Images**



**The art of Matth Cupido**

9

Getting inside the artistic mind of Christian artist  
Matth Cupido.

**Our development campaign 5**

Redeemer College has launched a millennium development campaign entitled *Building on the Promise*.



**Degrees retroactive 13**

The College Senate has decided to allow all graduates of Redeemer College the option to change their degree to a BA or BSc. A festive gathering is being planned to celebrate this decision.

**DEPARTMENTS:**

President's Message	2
Upcoming Events	4
College News	5
Student Profile	8
Cover Story	9
Alumni Profile	12
Alumni News	13
Faculty Update	16
Personal Touch	18
Looking Back	19



# Still proud of that BCS



Tim Wolfert '87  
Editor

At 7:28 p.m., on Wednesday, January 20, 1999, Redeemer College's Senate voted to enact something that, quite honestly, I never thought that I would see. It voted to give Redeemer College graduates the chance to exchange their Bachelor of Christian Studies degree for a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree.

Ironically, the strongest emotion I felt at that time was not jubilation, exaltation, justification, or even thankfulness. When Dr. Cooper called for a show of hands and Senate voted unanimously to retroactively exchange degrees, I felt remorse, to the point of shame. I couldn't help thinking back to all those occasions over the years when I and fellow students and alumni doubted, snickered and even mocked the idea that we would ever be granted a BA or BSc. To be sure, we were proud to have our BCS, and we knew it to be a university degree, but years of having hopes rise and fall gave way, for some, to cynicism and disdain.

Sometimes, we make God out to be so small. Fortunately for us, He's bigger than we can ever imagine.

Will I exchange my degree? I don't know. For some alumni, the degree name is irrelevant; for others, it is very important. For still others, they see their BCS almost as a badge of honour, a recognition of the distinctly Christian education they received, and the Christian scholarship they engaged in alongside Redeemer faculty.

But for the time being, I may just keep my BCS hanging on the office wall, a per-

sonal testament to humility, and a symbol of God's faithfulness.

.....

Being faithful to God's promises is a theme that is found throughout this issue of *Images*.

God's faithfulness, and the trust in those promises, is a big factor in the life and work of Matth Cupido. Matth is Artist-in-Residence this year at Redeemer, and his life and work are a testimony to the joy, and assurance, of following God's calling. There is a feature story on Matth on page 9.

Sometimes, God's promises take what seems a lifetime to be fulfilled. Speaking through the prophet Jeremiah, God says to Judah that although they were to be exiled for 70 years, "I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise" (Jer. 29:10). It must have been an absurd notion to the people of Judah. But is the idea of a privately-funded university proclaiming Christ's Lordship in all areas of life any less absurd to our society? **Building on the Promise**, the development campaign for Redeemer College introduced on page 5, reminds us that although God has done many wondrous things for Redeemer College, there is still the challenge to do so much more.

In whatever we are called to do—artisan or athlete, student or instructor, alumnus or friend—let us boldly go forth to claim the promises that God has made, living in faith, and being true to His holy and perfect will. Our God wants no less for us and He will provide for all that we need.

## COMING EVENTS

### Choir Tour's Home Concert

Redeemer College Concert Choir will perform its tour repertoire. Feb. 28, 1999 - 8:30 p.m. Redeemer College Auditorium Free. (No reserved seating)

### Main Stage Play - *Firebugs*

David Van Belle '93 will be directing the spring main stage play *Firebugs*, by Max Frisch. Mar. 23 - 8 p.m. preview Mar. 24 - noon matinee Mar. 25-27 - 8 p.m. shows Redeemer College Auditorium \$10 (\$8 sr/st.) + tax

### Art Exhibition--Matth Cupido

Artist-in-Residence Matth Cupido will exhibit *Table Talk* this spring. Opening: Apr. 1, '99 - 8 p.m. Redeemer College Art Gallery Free. (Continues to Apr. 17.)

### Spring Choral Concert

Redeemer College Concert Choir is joined by the Alumni Choir and an orchestra and will perform the repertoire from its CD recording. Friday, April 16 - 8 p.m. Redeemer College Auditorium \$12 (\$10 sr/st.) + tax

### Graduation

The Redeemer community is cordially invited to witness the college's 14th commencement ceremonies. Saturday, May 29 - 2 p.m. Redeemer College Auditorium

### Milk & Honey Festival

Registration is now open for the Milk & Honey Festival: a wonderful vacation with a Christian perspective. Silver Edition: May 24 - 28 Original: May 31 - June 4 Redeemer College

### Celebration of Retroactivity

Join alumni and the Board of Governors in celebrating the retroactivity of Redeemer's degrees. Barbecue at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 5 - 7:30 p.m. Redeemer College

### Board Meetings

Redeemer College Senate meets: Mar. 17 & May 5 - 6:45 p.m. Board of Governors meets: May 29 - 9:30 a.m.



# Building on the Promise

Redeemer College's millennium development initiative

As God declares His promise to us, we as God's people who are serving the Lord's mission for Redeemer College can stand together as a thankful community."

So begins the introduction to Redeemer's development initiative for 1999.

Redeemer College experienced the faithfulness of God's promise when in June 1998 it received official university degree granting status from the Government of Ontario, thus becoming the first, and so far the only, private Christian university recognized by the Ontario university academic community.

Redeemer College sees *Building on the Promise* as a signal to the community that it is ready to move ahead in 1999 with thankfulness to the Lord and with confidence and exuberance.

The college's 1998-2001 strategic plan sets clear objectives for institutional stability and growth. These objectives involve a requirement for additional revenues from donations which will be used to attract increased enrolment and build the college's image to a wider constituency. Specifically,

additional donations will be used toward:

- infrastructure and academic program capital needs
- technological advancement
- academic program development
- capital debt reduction
- student assistance fund
- research development fund

The *Building on the Promise* Steering Committee is planning the campaign to run into the year 2000. An Advance Phase has been successfully completed resulting in a goal of \$835,000 being met from several business leaders earlier in 1998. Through deferred gifts and additional cash gifts and pledges over the next three years, the college hopes to realize between \$6 and \$8 million over and above current revenues.

The campaign plans to organize regionally across Ontario in 16 districts. The campaign organization will be volunteer-driven in order to reach out to all Redeemer College's alumni, friends and supporters, and beyond.

"We really have an exciting opportunity to share with the Christian community, and there is keen interest in us and in Redeemer College's degree-granting status



## *Building on the Promise* the Campaign for Redeemer College Steering Committee Membership

Justin D. Cooper	President
M. Elaine Botha	Vice-President, Academic
Bill van Staaldin	Vice-President, Advancement
Ineke VanBruinessen	Senior Director, Admin. & Finance
Jim Boehmer	Board of Governors
Martin Mudde	Board of Governors
John Boersma	Foundation Board
Bill Voortman	Foundation Board
Lloyd Hack	Community Member
Bill Smouter	Community Member
Mike Glockner	Student Senate
Mike Bax	Alumni Board
Gregory Hatton	Campaign Director
Clarence Keesman	Campaign Associate Director

every time we tell a new person who didn't know about us before," says Bill van Staaldin, vice-president (advancement). "We plan to work hard on the campaign and we are trusting the Lord to take this institution to inspired levels of service in building His kingdom-cause. We continue to prayerfully seek the Lord's will in this effort as we did in 1998 when we witnessed God's hand guiding the process of the college's charter amendments."



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

**VIDEO SHOOT:** In early September, crew members from the Crossroads Television System were on campus shooting a video for the *Building on the Promise* campaign. The video was used in the advance phase of the campaign and a similar video is currently being used for recruitment by the Admissions Department.

*Milk & Honey*  
and the  
*Silver Edition*

*A vacation with a Christian perspective*

Registration is now open for:  
**May 24-28, Silver Edition**  
**May 31-June 4**

FOR REGISTRATION FORMS, CONTACT THE COLLEGE AT (905) 648-2131



# NSERC recognizes Redeemer

Break-through for Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division

The Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division at Redeemer College has long been seeking eligibility status from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) to be able to administer research grants. In 1998, this status has finally arrived.

NSERC now recognizes the quality university-level education that students from Redeemer College obtain. This recognition is important for Redeemer's science and mathematics students for many reasons.

First, this means that students graduating from Redeemer College are eligible to apply to NSERC for fellowships and scholarships for graduate school. Two top quality graduates of '96 applied to NSERC for graduate studies, but NSERC could not consider their applications because they were not from an NSERC-approved institution. Now NSERC is able to offer qualified Redeemer College stu-

dents access to these monies.

Second, NSERC's approval means that students will be able to apply for student summer research programs funded by NSERC at Redeemer College or at other institutions. In the past, a few Redeemer College students have obtained summer research positions at NRC (the National Research Council) and McMaster University, but midway through the summer, the NSERC funding was terminated because NSERC realized they were Redeemer College students. Now NSERC

will be allowed to fund these jobs obtained by well-qualified Redeemer College students. In fact, this year, some Redeemer faculty intend to hire one or two students for the summer, funded with NSERC's undergraduate student research awards.

Third, NSERC's approval means that Redeemer College faculty can apply to NSERC for grants directly through Redeemer College. Interested faculty do not need to first obtain adjunct status at some other "recognized" institution such as McMaster University in

order to apply for NSERC funding. Currently two Redeemer professors, Dr. Wytse van Dijk (physics) and Dr. Kevin Vander Meulen (mathematics) have adjunct faculty status at McMaster University and both have received NSERC funding for research projects by applying through McMaster.

The new status for Redeemer College also means that any equipment purchased by a professor with an NSERC grant obtained through Redeemer College will in fact belong to Redeemer College and not some other "recognized" institution.

"The Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division is proud of its pioneering students who, despite the funding discrimination they may have initially faced, have excelled at graduate school and paved the way—for their excellent track record—for future students graduating from Redeemer College's Natural Sciences and Mathematics Division," said Dr. Vander Meulen.



PHOTO BY DAVID RANKMAN

NSERC's approval is sure to help science students like Lisa Scully.

such as McMaster University in

## Redeemer's Science Alumni at Graduate School\*

Stuart Admiral '87 - MSc, U. of Guelph, 1996, pursuing a PhD in watershed ecosystems, Trent University  
 Rodney DeKoter '88 - PhD in immunology, University of Western Ontario, 1996  
 Mary (Bom) Bijl '88 - MSc in environmental science, University of Guelph, 1991  
 Eric Brouwer x'88 - MSc in chemistry, UBC, 1992, and PhD in chemistry, University of Ottawa, 1996  
 Terry Van Belle x'88 - MSc in computer science, University of Alberta, 1995  
 Eric Hagt '89 - MSc in biology, McMaster University, 1992  
 Ken Kiers x'89 - PhD in physics, University of British Columbia, 1996  
 Jeremy Cook x'90 - PhD in immunology, University of Toronto, 1997  
 Andrew Vreugdenhill x'90 - PhD in chemistry, McGill University, 1996  
 John Faber x'90 - MSc in crop science, University of Guelph, 1995  
 Heather (Wind) Mulder '91 - PhD in ecology, University of Alberta, 1997  
 Peter Zwart '91 - MSc in biology, University of Guelph, 1995  
 Deanna van Dijk '91 - graduate work in geography, University of Waterloo, MSc 1993, PhD 1998  
 Alma (Bennets) Pittaway '92 - MSc in zoology, University of Toronto, 1994  
 Brenda Brouwer x'92 - MSc Queen's University, 1996, pursuing a PhD at Dalhousie University  
 Jeremy Cooper '93 - pursuing a PhD in chemistry at Purdue University  
 Jody VandePutte '95 - pursuing an MSc in environmental studies at York University  
 Brian Aukema '96 - pursuing an MSc in forest entomology at the University of Wisconsin  
 Darren Brouwer '97 - pursuing a PhD in chemistry at the University of British Columbia  
 Fervone Holowenko '97 - pursuing an MSc in environmental biology at the University of Alberta

\*Some of the above alumni graduated from Redeemer, other pioneers took at least two years at Redeemer before transferring to another university to complete their undergraduate degree because Redeemer's science programs were still developing. Despite (or perhaps because of) the smaller enrolments in the science division at Redeemer College, the comparatively large number of students that have attended graduate school is significant. This list does not include the many students who have attended teachers college or professional school such as medicine. Please note that our records may not be complete, as we only record the information given to us from our graduates. We would be glad to hear of any further news of our graduates.



# Endowment fund will benefit generations of students

As part of its millennium development initiative, Redeemer College has created a new endowment fund designed to ensure that students here will always have access to the scholarships and bursaries they need.

With a revised degree-granting charter under its belt, Redeemer expects enrolment to continue to increase, putting a strain on scholarship and bursary budget that is already bursting its seams.

"With more and more students enrolling at Redeemer, we have to increase our capacity to provide financial assistance," says Redeemer President Justin Cooper. "The Redeemer College Scholarship Endowment Fund will help to ensure that a Christian university education continues to be affordable."

## A Lasting Legacy

Gifts to endowment funds are invested, keeping the principal—or the original gift—intact, while providing interest annually to fund a designated cause. In the case of Redeemer's new endowment fund, all gifts—large or small—will be consolidated in a single endowment fund, the principal of which will remain untouched for many years while the interest earned each year will provide scholarships and bursaries for today's and tomorrow's Redeemer students.

"Endowment funds have always been an attractive way for donors to give a gift that leaves a lasting legacy—one that continues to benefit the cause of their choice long after they are gone," says Ben Stegeman, director of stewardship and planned giving at Redeemer.

## A Unique Endowment Fund

Redeemer's new endowment fund is unique because it allows



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE:** The new Redeemer College Scholarship Endowment Fund will help the college provide much-needed financial assistance to students even as enrolment continues to climb.

even the smallest donor an opportunity to participate. Traditionally, many institutions have set minimum donation amounts for endowment funds, thus limiting them to the financially well-off.

"We want our fund to provide opportunities for every donor to help build a legacy for Redeemer students," Stegeman says, "because every gift is important. Even a gift of \$25 or \$50, when pooled with others, will make a lasting difference in Redeemer's ability to assist students financially."

## Essential Recruiting Tool

Along with their diplomas, today's graduates often carry heavy debt loads with them when they leave the hallowed halls of learning. In fact, student debts, from both public and privately-funded universities, are higher today than ever before. To continue to attract students, institutions like Redeemer must be able to offer strong financial assistance as well as excellent academic programs.

"Redeemer's ability to offer competitive scholarships and bursaries is an essential tool for

recruiting students," says Marian Ryks-Szelekovsky, admissions director for Redeemer College. "Without that financial assistance, many students who would otherwise choose Redeemer will simply not be able to come here."

Redeemer currently offers student assistance through scholarships based on academic achievement, bursaries which are based on need, and a work-

study program, which provides part-time jobs to help students fund their education.

Currently Redeemer must dip into its operating budget each year to fund these programs, cutting into many other essential programs of the college. The endowment fund will provide separate funding designated specifically for financial assistance, thus easing the yearly financial strain on college operating costs.

## Endowments: a Special Opportunity

"We thank God each day for the strong support we already receive from our community," says Stegeman. "We don't intend this new fund to put a strain on our faithful supporters. But an endowment fund is a special giving opportunity which allows a person to know the gift they give today will keep working tomorrow, and next month, and in the next millennium. It provides an exciting opportunity. Even the smallest gift, when pooled with many others, will make a huge difference."

## Did you know that...

...when you give to Redeemer's new endowment fund, your gift will remain untouched, while earning interest year after year?

...the interest earned on your gift will help provide scholarships and bursaries for Redeemer students of today and the future?

...you will receive a charitable tax receipt for your gift to Redeemer's endowment fund?

...your gifts to the Redeemer College Scholarship Endowment Fund will leave a lasting testimony of your commitment to Christian higher education?

...gifts to Redeemer's new endowment fund can be of any amount, large or small?

To contribute to the endowment fund, turn to the back panel, or if you would like more information or have questions related to other planned giving opportunities, please contact Ben Stegeman, director of stewardship and planned giving, at (905) 648-2131 x205.



...the interest earned on your gift will help provide scholarships and bursaries for Redeemer students of today and the future?

...you will receive a charitable tax receipt for your gift to Redeemer's endowment fund?

...your gifts to the Redeemer College Scholarship Endowment Fund will leave a lasting testimony of your commitment to Christian higher education?

...gifts to Redeemer's new endowment fund can be of any amount, large or small?

To contribute to the endowment fund, turn to the back panel, or if you would like more information or have questions related to other planned giving opportunities, please contact Ben Stegeman, director of stewardship and planned giving, at (905) 648-2131 x205.



# Redeemer student takes play to new kids

Krista Posthumus demonstrates her love for children's theatre

By Charity Farenhorst

Fourth-year Redeemer student Krista Posthumus recently directed *New Canadian Kid* as an Independent Study project for her theatre major. And she took her show on the road.

Dennis Foon's *New Canadian Kid* is about a boy named Nick who comes to Canada from a country called "Homeland." The play deals with Nick's experiences with school, meeting new people, learning English and the strange Canadian customs.

"There was a catch which really appealed to me," Posthumus said. "The Canadians speak jibberish while Nick and his mother, the

'Homelanders,' speak English."

Because of the play's appeal to a children's audience, Posthumus was able to take this play to Elgin St. Public School in Cambridge and Regina Mundi Catholic School in Hamilton. Both performances, as well as the three shows at Redeemer, were well-received.

"The children were so responsive...everything that I thought I knew about children and their need for engaging theatre--with big actions and larger-than-life characters--was reinforced in the schools," she said.

The whole cast had a wonderful time and Posthumus says being able to perform in front of a young audience was a unique experience for the actors.

"They were able to come



Krista Posthumus

alive and discover new things in front of the children, who often repeated jibberish lines, chanted and laughed and laughed," she said.

Being in the education program as well, Posthumus would love to teach drama to children.

"I love the way children's theatre often requires imagina-

tion, which children have a lot of. You really have to suspend your disbelief; the characters in children's theatre are so often exaggerated and over-expressive; these are the most fun to portray and kids love it!"

Posthumus says she's learned a lot through Redeemer's theatre arts program.

"I have been challenged in many ways, personally, intellectually and spiritually. The acting and directing classes forced me out of my comfort zone often and made me grow."

She hopes to put together something similar for the Redeemer community--including its younger members--and encourages other Redeemer students to direct shows for children as well.

# High schoolers take the plunge at New Horizons

By Charity Farenhorst

A record 169 high school students attended this year's New Horizons weekend at Redeemer College, Nov. 27 and 28, up from last year's total of 116.

The increase in attendance is attributed, in part, to the new degree-granting status of the school and stronger event promotion efforts.

The high number of students created an "atmosphere that was full of energy--everyone was just so excited to be there," said Laura Trapasso, who worked with admissions counsellor Dory Strikwerda and fellow student Liz Kirkland to co-ordinate the weekend.

"The purpose of New Horizons is to give a taste of Redeemer to high school students," Trapasso said, "to get the word out about Redeemer and to give a good impression of the university."

Students from all over Canada and the United States came for the weekend, stay-



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

An "underwater" theme was used at this year's New Horizons weekend. Above, students gather in the foyer--among the seaweed and clams--before the festivities begin.

ing in the dorms and spending a great deal of time being introduced to the Redeemer community--both the social and academic side of the school.

On Friday afternoon, the students met in small groups--headed up by Redeemer student volunteers--for devotions and games before heading off for a tour of the school.

Later in the evening they saw the main stage theatre production, *The Importance of Being Ernest*, after which they attended a Redeemer coffeehouse.

The next day, students attended admissions workshops, an academic fair, where each academic department made a presentation, and a faculty address.

The weekend was a great success, according to Trapasso.

"A week after New Horizons, student leaders were hearing back from students who had been in their small groups, thanking them for the time they had spent introducing them to the school," she said. "Many of them were

extremely impressed with Redeemer and very much wanted to come back!"

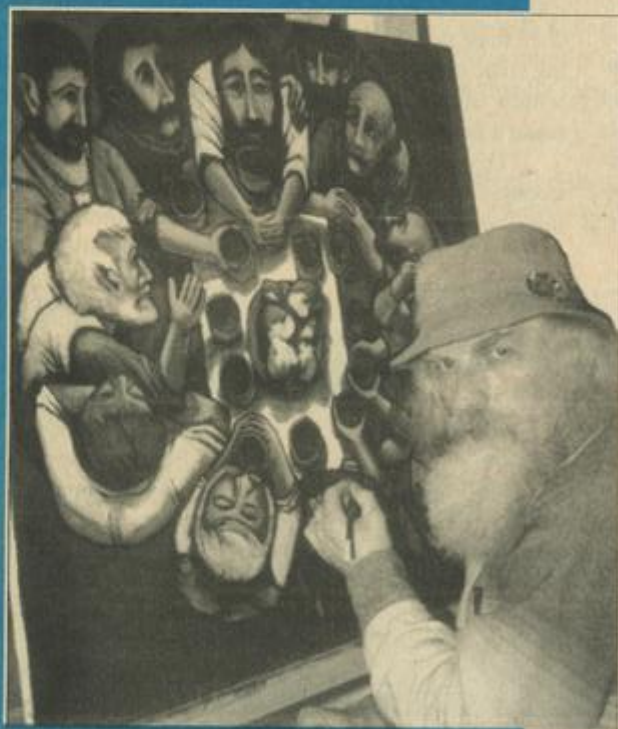
Already the admissions department has received 102 applications from among those who attended and that number is still climbing. In the past, the college receives applications from about 62 per cent of those who attend New Horizons.



# God gives to His beloved sleep

An interview with  
Matth Cupido

By Corina Bos '94



Matth Cupido is no stranger to the Redeemer community. He has spent time among the students and faculty on previous occasions when he was commissioned to paint two murals inside the academic building.

Cupido was born in 1939 in Dordrecht, The Netherlands. He spent his childhood living in a house no bigger than a double story garage with his parents and eight siblings. Cupido was born with a gift for drawing, and can remember drawing pictures at a young age. There were Sunday shows in the kitchen, where he would hang little sketches from the counter for his family, who would pay him a "looking fee." With ten cents in his pocket the next day, he would buy a new little notebook and pencil.

Cupido did not receive formal art training, except for one drawing course, where he remembers being assigned to draw a plaster cast under a neon light. An impossible task since the bright light on the white plaster surface prevented the students from seeing anything, forcing them to heed the instructor's words: "Don't draw a likeness of it, carve it out of paper!" For Cupido, this method of drawing is connected to the notion of "Light coming out of Darkness," something he incorporates in many of his works by having the subject matter come forward out of a dark background.

In 1971, Cupido moved to Vancouver, and in 1973 came to Toronto to join *Patmos*, a group of Christians who had started a studio gallery in Toronto. He was there for one year and *Patmos* ended in 1974. "In that one year we did a lot of stuff, worked hard, struggled to survive as a group, but it was not to be, because the odds were against us. The financial support issue was not my particular problem, but it was for many of the other artists. It is a philosophy I deal with everyday. Some people tell me to sell my art for a much higher price. However, when I establish a price I am realistic about the situation. I want people to be able to afford it. This is part of the process. The art you make is not only for yourself, you make it for others, for the community around you."

Cupido's own desire to make himself available for a year as Artist-in-Residence at Redeemer College this academic year came about through his observation of the art department while painting the murals in 1996 and 1998. He sensed a need for dialogue among the students about their work and about their own reluctance towards choosing a career in the arts within the Christian community. Alongside a busy work schedule (which begins at 6 o'clock in the morning), completing works for two Redeemer exhibitions, Cupido spends time talking with students about art, the art-making process, and what it means to be an artist who is a Christian.

We discussed his own art-making process as well as some of the recurring issues the students are struggling with, during a conversation in an establishment in Ancaster on a snowy January afternoon. As we settle into our seats, Cupido starts talking about his affinity for public places when he is working on an idea for an upcoming show. "I crawl away in the back of a bar and I sit there with a whole lot of paper and



stuff—and I do a phenomenal amount of little notes and little sketches and stuff like that. My thinking cap just moves and I say, 'I ought to do this, yeah this is what I've been thinking about.'

"I remember sitting in the back of a bar doing stuff on the Beatitudes, which is a proper place because the Beatitudes have more to do with the world, than they have to do with you and me, i.e., the church. I think your setting affects what you derive out of your subject, what you come up with. In this case it was helpful to be close to common everyday folk, rather than coming with a vision from the top down."

"You are referring to the artist stereotype of being invariably distanced from your culture."

"Well, that's the way society thinks about art. It's their notion of a romantic kind of thing. At the show I did on the Book of Job, I said to the students on several occasions, 'God gives to his beloved sleep.' Usually when I wander around with ideas about paintings and stuff like that, I let it rest for a while. Not sitting there and waiting for a muse to hit me in the back of the head, but saying okay, just keep going, keep working this thing out, keep familiarizing yourself with the subject matter. Then tonight, when you go to bed, go to sleep and God will do His work overnight. He will, and He usually comes up in the morning and says: 'Wakey, wakey, there's the job, get to it!' And this too is a normal thing. But the fact is, of course, that I have a contract. I have a relationship with the One that supplies me with the fuel and who gave me the car! That gave me the gift for absolutely nothing!"

"I say that because it's an important point—I didn't get the gift from anywhere else. That

is something foreign in the relationship that I have with most stu-

dents. What I find is that the students are learning art here for one reason or another, but there are very few who have that innate kind of talent about it. You can see it in their work, and you can see it in the manner of what they do.

*"It can be frustrating, since many of our students come here having had little or no art instruction at the elementary and high school level. There is a real problem within the Christian education system, because art is not considered an important subject, and many of our students are discouraged from de-*



"Offering"

*veloping their artistic talents at an early age.*

*The Christian education system and the*

*Christian community is saying 'You cannot become an artist—how will you live?'"*

"No, we don't want to have you as a dependent!" That's totally what that sentiment is. That comes out of the house and it comes into the church and it comes into the school and that is why schools say that art education is not possible because we want to be spending time teaching students something through which they can responsibly make a living.

"Of course, I always get the question: 'You make a living at this?' and I say, 'Yes I do.' I

have been doing it now full-time since 1965, part-time since I was about three or four. I have never been in need of anything, never had a time that I didn't have any money. God's promises never fail you, you see. I'm talking to you as a Christian...that also goes for all things, even though there are plenty of people around you that will convince you differently.

"I'd like to go back to that particular statement, 'God gives to his beloved sleep.' It is a wonderful thought for me because art is a hectic business. You're always too late—not in terms of appointments, but you're always too late in what you're doing; you're always working after the fact. And this is interesting because that was part of the frustration of Patmos. There was an ardent desire at Patmos to do the art which hadn't been done before, which is, I think, a forever losing agenda. I think art, by nature, is an activity in which we do things that haven't been done before.

"Thinking back, there were always artists around Patmos who were frustrated with the notion of not being able to paint. They were hemmed in, unable to walk, because there was always another major concern in their mind. It arose, I think from a pressure to, number one, be something, to be a somebody;



"Embalmed"





"Grieving"

and secondly, a pressure to be somebody monetarily."

*"Because our society equates your net worth with your self worth..."*

"That's right. We hardly know the other sense of worth, the value of being somebody. We are a commodity-conscious people; we live in a society that thinks that way. We live in a society where you are measured by the amount of money that you make—that's the raw truth of the matter. And if you are an artist, it is first of all assumed that you don't make any money, and secondly, it is assumed that they can watch you dance."

*"Many students are confronted by parents and peers who find it hard to accept that they would choose a profession that has such poor economic rewards."*

But you see, I, from the outset of *Patmos*, was never bothered

by the monetary aspect, nor by the notion of doing something that hadn't been done before. I don't know why that was. That may have been due to a certain amount of naiveté on my part, which I think has put me in good stead. I am a little bit naive in my own sense, but then there is nothing more to be said as far as I'm concerned, and if I die tomorrow then my life will have been wonderful. So in terms of that, it puts you on slightly different plane."

*"How would you describe the role of the Christian community towards art?"*

"I think the Christian community, and now of course we will be dealing mainly with the Reformed Christian community, views art with a certain amount of suspicion, and looks at art in a somewhat idyllic way. We are Calvin-istically inclined, and therefore you have to jump a number of hurdles to be ac-

cepted. First of all, you have to convince the Christian community that art is really work. Secondly, you have to convince the Christian community that art is something edifying to do. Thirdly, you have to convince the Christian community that art has a sanctifying responsibility, one that unifies the community, and can indeed promote the community to live closer to God.

*"How do you think the Christian community/Church perceives its duty to support the arts?"*

"Monetary support is something that the church, and now we are again talking about the Reformed Christian community, in effect says: 'We support preachers, we support teachers, and we support missionaries, and that's the extent of it. We don't support choir directors, we don't support organists, and we certainly wouldn't support artists.' And now, if you want to be an artist—and this is the truth, this

is the truth as big as a house—the Christian community says 'It is good if you want to do that Matth—you should give your work to the church. Because after all, it is a gift of God that has been given to you, and secondly, you like what you're doing!'

"What they are really saying is that they have no need of the art! This is the crux of the matter. The Christian community has not, as yet, recognized the fault that it made in the beginning when we did away with the appreciation of that kind of work. We did away with that, and we traded it in for something else—the idea that we now work strictly for monetary value.

"Part of the reason why I am here at Redeemer is that I beg to differ with that idea. I'm still here. It's been over 30 years now, and I would be amiss if I didn't say that God has blessed me everyday. And that's something, because it speaks against this."

## Cupido presents "Table Talk"

As Artist-in-Residence for the 1998-99 academic year, Matth Cupido has been busy with a variety of tasks both on the Redeemer campus and beyond.

Throughout the year, he has been drawing and painting a collection of works for his April exhibition entitled "Table Talk" which opens 8 p.m. on April 1 in the Redeemer College Art Gallery.

In addition, he has been invited to speak about art at a number of Christian schools in the Southern Ontario region. He has also made himself

available for discussions and conversations with Redeemer students in both a formal and informal atmosphere.

Last semester, he presented an exhibition called "Job: Companion of God," which included his performance in a dramatic presentation.

Cupido's stay as artist-in-residence is co-sponsored by Redeemer College and the Ontario Christian School Teachers' Association. He will return to Nova Scotia shortly after his exhibition closes on April 17.

Corina Bos graduated from Redeemer College in 1994. She received her Doctorandus degree in the History of Art from the Free University of Amsterdam in 1997. This past semester, she was a member of Redeemer's art faculty, teaching a third-year course entitled: "The Artist in the Twentieth Century."



# Frances Manias-Jackson takes on the world

Redeemer alumna places 12th in world body building competition

By Charity Farenhorst

With the International Olympic Committee now recognizing body building as a sport, I have my eyes once again set on my childhood dream," reveals Redeemer alumna Frances Manias-Jackson. "As a member of Team Canada, it is closer than I ever imagined."

Twenty-five year old Manias-Jackson, a native of Woodstock, Ontario, graduated from Redeemer in 1996 with a Bachelor of Christian Studies in Physical Education and an elementary teaching degree. She presently still plays a valuable



Frances Manias-Jackson '96

part in the Redeemer community in the role of athletic coordinator.

It was not until the summer of '94 that Manias-Jackson began to actively pursue training with weights.

Basketball was her first passion,—she played for the University of Waterloo before

transferring to Redeemer. She describes herself as an athlete who loves to compete.

"With team sport opportunities coming to an end when I graduated, I eagerly took hold of this new competitive endeavour and have not looked back since," she said.

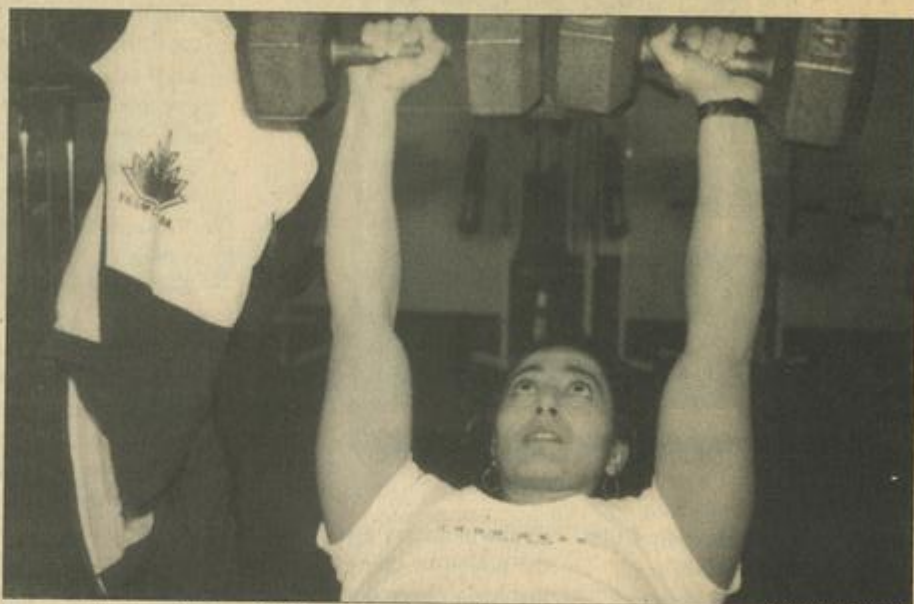
This past September, Manias-Jackson placed first in her weight class, (middleweight women), in the first-ever National Drug Tested Body Building Championships; this would qualify her for the World Championships. Two weeks later she finished second at the Canadian Championships in Toronto. In October she travelled to Alicante, Spain to compete in the World competition where she placed 12th.

Surprisingly, competitive bodybuilding does not take up the largest part of Manias-Jackson's life. In addition to working as athletic coordinator at Redeemer, she is the head coach of the women's varsity basketball team. She has already earned a CPTN designation, (certification in personal

training) and hopes to begin a master's degree in nutrition.

Manias-Jackson, along with her husband, Sean Jackson, and another business partner, initiated "Alpha Omega Nutrition and Personal Training," a business offering supplements and fitness counselling. They also looked into developing a unique Health and Fitness Centre which would cater to the needs of individuals with disabilities and provide an exceptional environment for both learning and training. While this last endeavour was recently put on hold, it remains a goal for the future.

In all that she does, Manias-Jackson demonstrates a strong desire to see God glorified in her. "My goals have been accomplished because of one thing: Christ in me," she says. "I have put my heart and soul into everything I have ever done. I will continue to train and compete in reliance on Him, making the most of every opportunity He leads me to; the Lord willing, one day at the Olympic Games."



Frances Manias-Jackson '96 is training for her shot at an Olympic dream.

PHOTO BY DAVID RAABMAN

## Homecoming 99

A theatre production, a dramatic reading, a barbecue, golf tournament, a guided hike in the escarpment—all of these things, and many more, were part of Homecoming 98. Aren't you curious what we'll come up with this year?

All alumni and their families are invited to the Redeemer Alumni Association's annual Homecoming celebration on Saturday, September 18, 1999.

The Class of 1989 in particular will be honoured this year. If you have any suggestions as to activities, please contact the Alumni Office at Redeemer. Check the June issue of *Images* for full details and registration materials.



# Redeemer Senate approves retroactivity

Degree-exchange available for all grads

By H. Alan Bakker '90

On January 20, 1999 the Senate of Redeemer College passed resolutions enabling past graduates of Redeemer to apply to the college to replace their BCS degrees with BA or BSc degrees.

As long as there has been a Redeemer College, there have been discussions, debates, and dreams about the retroactive granting of BA and BSc degrees—would it ever happen? The issue took on a new intensity and air of expectancy when the college's provincial charter was amended in June 1998 to allow Redeemer to grant BA and BSc degrees. Since the power to grant degrees lies with the Senate (formerly the Academic Council), it was the body that was to give the final answer on whether or not these degrees would be retroactive to past graduates.

Senate charged an ad hoc committee with the responsibility to recommend whether, or to what extent, it would be appropriate to award BA or BSc degrees retroactively for a period before 1999. The committee addressed three questions: first, did the Senate have the right to grant retroactive degrees; second, if the Senate did have this right, what should be the grounds for awarding these degrees; and, third, if justified in granting the retroactive degrees, would it be prudent to do so?

The committee first determined that there was legal authority to grant degrees retroactively on the principles of natural justice and historical precedent: The most recent such precedent was set by Ryerson Polytechnic University which replaced "inappropriate" degrees of former graduates to avoid disadvantaging its graduates in the job market and confusing potential employers.

The committee then determined that any retroactive granting of degrees would have to be justified on academic

grounds. In seeking such justification, the committee reviewed the report of the Academic Review Panel established by the Ministry of Education to review the college in May 1998, compared the Academic Programs of the college in 1984 with those in 1998, examined the history of the college's Admission Requirements, and reviewed external recognition given to the college's past academic program, including the Evaluation Report of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada Visiting Committee in 1984, the acceptances of Redeemer graduates into Graduate and Professional schools, and transfer and articulation agreements established with other universities.

From this review the committee determined that there had been no substantial change in the nature and standards of the academic program offered by Redeemer College for 1984/85 to 1997/98 and that the Senate would be justified in granting retroactive degrees.

In examining whether or not it would be prudent to award degrees retroactively the committee referred to the Alumni Report noting the strong support from Alumni (see accompanying story). The committee also considered what the reactions of other universities might be and concluded that those universities which have been reluctant to accept Redeemer graduates might be reluctant to accept a retroactive BA or BSc but that the majority of universities have long accepted Redeemer graduates and that the retroactive granting of degrees would do no more than formalize what those universities have long accepted informally.

The process, although long, was thorough and complete, and left no doubt about the legitimacy of any alumni claim to either degree. Even the external faculty members on Senate were impressed with the academic re-

Cont'd on page 14

## Survey results on retroactivity

In October 1998, the Alumni Board sent a survey to all alumni asking their opinion on retroactivity. Dr. Deanna van Dijk '90 tabulated the results and prepared a report for the Senate's Ad Hoc Committee dealing with retroactivity.

The Alumni Board thanks those alumni who completed the survey, and Dr. van Dijk for her work in preparing the document. A summary of the survey is presented here. Anyone wishing to receive a full copy may request one from the Alumni Office at Redeemer College.

The survey found that many alumni consider degree retroactivity very important, for many different reasons. Some alumni recalled promises made by Redeemer College, while others saw retroactivity as an acknowledgment of alumni contributions to the growth of the college. And many noted that retroactivity will improve the future education and employment prospects of alumni. Although not all wished to replace their degree, they agreed overwhelmingly that alumni should be given the opportunity to do so.

Response Rate: 185 surveys were returned, an 18% response rate;

174 respondents were graduates (23% response rate among graduates);

1. Did not having a BA/BSc affect your employment prospects or continued education?

Yes	60	(35%)
No	99	(57%)
Not sure	4	(2%)
other/blank	11	(6%)

2. How important is it to you to have your BCS changed to a BA/BSc now that Redeemer has the ability to grant BA/BSc degrees?

Very important	65	37%
Important	49	28%
Not important	42	24%
Not important at all	10	6%
Other/blank	8	5%

3. If retroactivity were approved, would you exchange your BCS for the BA/BSc?

Yes	150	86%
No	17	10%
Not sure	2	1%
Other/blank	5	3%



## Royal Cup continues tradition

By Don Stelpstra '86

The 1998 edition of the Royal Cup was another big success.

Close to \$1,300 was raised for the Redeemer College Athletic Department by the annual Boxing Day hockey tournament, now in its third year. Six teams competed for the Royal Cup, with Archer Trucks defeating the Hamilton Steelhawks in the final.

The tournament originated with a few alumni who wanted to keep the tradition of Royals hockey alive. The tournament started small, but interest from teams has increased each year. The Redeemer Royals are the host team and the tourney is built around them. Long term plans include the possibility of having alumni teams from Calvin and Dordt as well as varsity teams from local Bible colleges participate.

For all those who have supported Royals hockey in the past, we encourage you to make plans to see the current edition of the Redeemer Royals at future Royal Cup tournaments. Watch *Images* for more details.

# Alumni and Concert Choirs to record CD

By David Raakman

For the first time in the history of Redeemer College, the school's Concert Choir will be making a recording.

The 44-voice choir will be joined by the Alumni Choir and an orchestra and will be conducted by Dr. Christiaan Teeuwsen, professor of music at the college.

"We've had it in our heads to do a recording for years," Teeuwsen said. "This year just worked out to be the one."

While all the pieces for the recording have not yet been selected, one that will most likely be sung is C. P. E. Bach's "Heilig (Holy Is God)," a wonderful piece for double choir and orchestra.

The Alumni Choir has been practising the second Saturday of every month at the college in preparation for the recording, and rehearsal leader Ruth Ann Schuringa '89 said the members are very excited about it.

"We could have about 25-30 people in the choir and

most are committed to taking the day off work (Friday) for the recording session," Schuringa said.

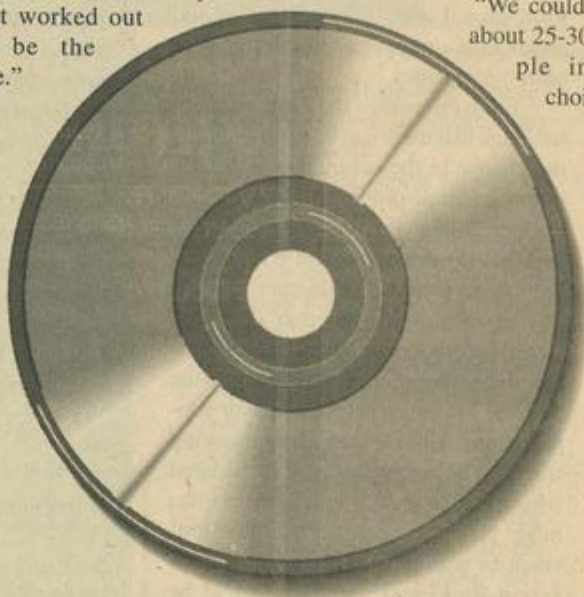
The primary session is scheduled to occur April 9 and 10 with a possible supplementary session taking place within a week of that time.

"We're still taking bids for who will produce the recording and we're looking at two or three possible venues to determine what has better acoustics for voices," said Dr. Bert Polman, professor of music.

The supplementary recording will be done at Redeemer and is likely to include one or two organ works performed by Dr. Teeuwsen.

Although it is difficult to know when the recording will be available for purchase, Polman hopes it will be ready this summer. The college will be launching a sales campaign where pre-paying customers will receive advanced copies as soon as they are available.

"We feel there's enough support for what the choir does," said Teeuwsen. "And any extra money we make can be put back into another recording project."



## Retroactivity celebration evening to be held June 5

Cont'd from page 13

quirements and standards that have always been a part of Redeemer College.

As a member of the Senate and of the ad hoc committee, I was delighted to sense quickly that the faculty's opinions were very similar to those of the alumni. From an alumni per-

spective the review of the ad hoc committee and the final decision of the Senate confirm what we have always believed, or wanted to believe about our college and about ourselves: that despite formal recognition we have provided and have obtained degree programs that are equivalent to our Canadian University peers.

It's been a long time coming, but it's been well worth the wait.

By now, all alumni should have received a notice from the college describing the process for exchanging their degrees, and an invitation to "Celebrating Faithfulness," the special degree exchange evening to be

held on June 5, 1999 at the college. Please contact the Alumni Office if you have not received this package.

Alan Bakker is the Alumni Association Representative to the Senate.





PHOTO BY CAROLIN MOUNT

BUMP, SET, SPIKE! Angela (Powers) Dragt '94 bumps the ball to a teammate in Redeemer's first alumni volleyball tournament.

## First alumni volleyball tournament a success

Six teams plowed through the snow to participate in the first (hopefully annual) Redeemer Alumni Volleyball Tournament on January 16.

The tournament was a success on a number of fronts—lots of fun and fellowship by the participants, good, competitive volleyball, and most importantly (at least for some of the aging athletes), everyone was able to walk

afterwards.

Given the enthusiasm of those who participated, it looks like this tournament will be repeated next year. Watch *Images* for more details.

And if you have an idea for an alumni-related event, be that athletic, cultural, or otherwise, contact the Alumni Office. We are always looking for ways to serve Redeemer alumni.



PHOTO BY TIM WOLFFERT

THE CHAMPIONS: Team "Staff" won the trophy at the first Redeemer Alumni Volleyball Tournament. Back Row from left: Sara (Weber) VanBarneveld '97, Francis Manias-Jackson '96, Betty Steenbeek '90. Front row: Harry Blyleven '93, soon-to-be-alumnus Mike Vanderboor and John Byl (physical education professor).

## Alumni looking to give choirs a rise

The Alumni Board is pleased to announce that the target for the 1999 Alumni Annual Appeal is a series of risers to be used by the Concert and Alumni Choirs. The board hopes to raise enough money to purchase three new risers in addition to the risers that are currently used. According to the application from the Music Department, the college now hosts larger choirs in the auditorium, and there are more choirs and musical groups that need to use risers, especially when the choir is on tour.

Now in its third year, the Alumni Annual Appeal is a fund-raising initiative de-

signed by alumni and directed at alumni. In previous years, alumni have donated funds that were used to purchase computers for library research, and to make improvements to the centre foyer of the college.

The Alumni Board is grateful for the financial support that alumni have demonstrated towards this appeal in the past, and is confident that alumni will help "lift up" the choirs that so enrich life at the college, not only for students, but for the whole Redeemer community. Alumni can expect to receive a brochure detailing this project in the next few weeks. --TW



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Redeemer College Alumni Association is sponsoring the publication of the first issue of *Eikon*, a creative journal showcasing the literary and artistic work of Redeemer alumni. Inspired by the student publication *The Minstrel*, *Eikon* will be an edited collection of alumni works. The editors, Alison Gresik '93 and David Van Belle '93, may ask for revisions before a work is accepted for publication.

Please submit your poetry, short fiction and creative non-fiction (maximum length 3,000 words) and artwork (which will be produced in black and white) to:

### EIKON

c/o Redeemer College Alumni Office  
777 Garner Road E.  
Ancaster, ON L9K 1J4  
Work may also be submitted electronically to  
alumnioffice@redeemer.on.ca

Not all submissions are guaranteed to be included in *Eikon*. Please indicate if you would like your work returned. Deadline for submissions is April 15, 1999.



# Prof. Spackman's versatility put to good use

Program improvements are a work of art

By David Raakman

Redeemer College is a great place for students to begin their career in art while getting a Christian education.

In fact, Redeemer is one of the only Christian colleges in Canada with an art major, allowing students to take a variety of art courses while getting a Christian liberal arts degree.

Art professor Betty Spackman says that's one of the most important aspects of the art program at Redeemer.

"There aren't too many options for Christians studying art," Spackman says.

Spackman has been teaching art part-time at Redeemer since 1991 and was hired full-time at the start of the 1997-98 academic year.

Since that time, a few changes have occurred within the program and some more are currently under discussion.



Betty Spackman

"We're rebuilding the curriculum," Spackman said. "We're looking at grouping related courses together so students take them one semester after another and we're adding a design course and, hopefully, a computer art course to supplement the media course already offered."

Spackman earned her Bachelor of Art and Art History degree from the University of Toronto and her Master of Fine Arts from York University and has a multi-disciplined background, enabling her to teach many of the varying facets of art.

She is a multi-media installation artist, (producing art works in public spaces using a combination of various media).

Spackman has a background in computer art and animation and, for the first time, is having her students design

their own web page this year.

She has also presented many of her own exhibitions in Austria, and still spends her summers there, working with a colleague to put shows together. This summer, she's been invited to teach at an art academy in Austria as well.

Redeemer's art department has grown, especially in the last year, with 23 new students majoring in art, up from seven new students last year.

This is due in part to more hands-on, studio courses being offered in the program.

"It's important to teach stu-

dents about art history, but you have to balance that with studio instruction too," Spackman says.

The art program continues to offer senior students a credited course where they present a solo exhibition giving them valuable experience.

"It gives them an opportunity to go through the procedure of putting on a show and to document the exhibition for entrance into a Master's degree program," says Spackman.

In addition, the art department continues to invite guest artists to Redeemer each semester to exhibit a collection of artwork. This gives the art community at Redeemer more exposure and enables students to interact with professional artists.

Be sure to visit the art department's website for information on the art program and courses as well as links to various art-related sites, a public forum, and much more:

[www.redeemer.on.ca/academics/art](http://www.redeemer.on.ca/academics/art)



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

Spackman with art student Amanda Wilms.

## FACULTY AWARDS

Congratulations to **Prof. Al Brown** who was granted a reappointment as Assistant Professor of Physical Education at the Board of Governors' meeting of Nov. 28, 1998. At the same meeting, **Dr. Danie Strauss** was reappointed as Director of the Dooyeweerd Centre. Both appointments are effective July 1, 1999.

Congratulations to **Dr. Kevin VanderMeulen** and **Prof. Betty Spackman** who have received Instructional Development Grants, VanderMeulen for two mathematics pedagogy conferences and Spackman for her video art pedagogy practicum.

Congratulations to the following faculty who have received Internal Re-

search Grants:

**Dr. Gary Chiang**--"Transection of the NCCII in the fifth stage larvae of the blood-feeding insect, *Rhodnius prolixus*, and its effect on metamorphosis" (funded by Redeemer College).

**Dr. Gene Haas**--"Ethics after Calvin: the Reformed Contribution to Protestant Ethics" (funded by SSHRC).

**Dr. Bert Polman**--"The Hymns of Hildegard van Bingen" (funded by SSHRC).

**Dr. Thea van Til Rusthoven**--"Zola, Lombroso et les codes des personnages: mauvais menage a trois?" (funded by SSHRC).

**Dr. Al Wolters**--"The Gender of the Holy Spirit in the Bible" (funded by SSHRC).

Congratulations also to **Dr. Wytse van Dijk** who is the recipient of an

NSERC research grant of \$22,000 over four years (1998-2002). The grant is administered through McMaster University because of van Dijk's part-time faculty position there.

## FACULTY ACTIVITIES, PUBLICATIONS

**David Benner** provided expert witness testimony on childhood sexual abuse in a trial before the Hamilton courts, October 1998.

**Deborah Bowen** attended the "Two Days of Canada" conference at Brock University, St. Catharines on Nov. 4, 5, 1998. She gave a paper entitled "A Taste of Canada: Interpreting the Signs in a Montreal Classroom." This paper has been accepted for publication in a forthcoming book.

**Henry Brouwer** presented two workshops at the Ontario Christian School Teacher's Association (OCSTA) conference held at Redeemer College on Oct. 30, 1998. The first was for the junior level entitled "Properties of Water" and the second for high school teachers entitled "Tips on Teaching Chemistry."

In November, he presented a "Fun With Science" show to Grade 7 and 8 students from Timothy Christian School in Rexdale at Redeemer College.

**John Byl** spoke on "Coaching: Preserving Sanity in an Insane World" at the OCSTA conference held at Redeemer College on Oct. 30, 1998.

**Al Wolters** published "The Copper Scroll," in *The Dead Sea Scrolls after Fifty Years: A Comprehensive Assessment*. Volume 1.



## Two Redeemer professors selected for Oxford program

By Mark Van Beveren

The Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities has announced that Dr. Wayne Norman and Dr. Jitse van der Meer have been selected to participate in the prestigious John Templeton Seminars on Science and Christianity at Oxford University.

The research grants provide the Redeemer professors with the opportunity to spend a period of time over the next three years pursuing their research on specialized topics, participating in seminar discussions and contributing to workshops held with other scholars.

Norman, a professor of psychology, will study the place of religious and spiritual concepts in theories of brain functioning. Van der Meer, an expert on the history and philosophy of science, will focus on understanding how Christian religious beliefs shape the content of sci-

ence and actually enable good, scholarly science to take place.

The Redeemer professors were selected out of a group of 120 applicants. Only 20 grants were awarded to faculty at Coalition-member schools of which there are more than 90 Christ-centred colleges and universities across North America.

If excellent Christian teaching is one of the essential requirements for being a faculty member at Redeemer College, then keen Christian scholarship is the other side of the coin. The men and women who receive faculty appointments are expected to be active in research and publication.

For Drs. Norman and van der Meer, their time at Oxford promises dividends that will benefit their own work—the ongoing academic debate on the relationship between religion and science—and, ultimately, Redeemer students.



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

Drs. Norman (left) and van der Meer were chosen to participate in the upcoming John Templeton seminars on Christianity and science at Oxford University.



PHOTO BY DAVID RAAKMAN

DR. DAVID LYLE JEFFREY, professor emeritus of English literature from the University of Ottawa, was the guest speaker at Redeemer's 11th annual Staley Lecture series held Jan. 27 & 28. Students, staff and faculty alike spoke very highly of the lectures Jeffrey presented, which included "Biblical Wisdom for the End of an Age" and "Talking About Truth in the Present Age."

## Vriend, van Dijk on sabbatical

By Charity Farenhorst

Dr. Wytse Van Dijk and Dr. John Vriend are on sabbatical this semester; the first sabbaticals awarded to professors at Redeemer College since 1992.

"Teaching requires a lot of energy, enthusiasm and knowledge of your own field," said Dr. Elaine Botha, vice-president (academic), on the importance of sabbaticals. "Knowledge is always growing, so it challenges a professor to work very hard to keep abreast of the latest developments in his/her field. The purpose of a sabbatical is to give a professor a short break to gain new insights and new enthusiasm for the taxing challenges of teaching."

Vriend began teaching at Redeemer in 1985 and started the Education Department three years later. He came to Redeemer for a number of reasons. "One is my interest in and commitment to Christian education at all levels. I have always enjoyed teaching and felt that it is an important avenue of Christian service."

Vriend is doing a lot of reading and writing dealing with his proposal of research: Public Education as Proselytizer. He desires to study and write about the confessional character of public education throughout history, especially in North America.

Van Dijk began his appointment at Redeemer College in 1982. Van Dijk cited many reasons why he came to Redeemer, one of them being the appealing "challenge of being involved from the beginning with a new institution of Christian higher learning."

During his sabbatical, Van Dijk is conducting research in theoretical physics, spending most of his time at McMaster, where he has earned an appointment as professor of physics. His specialization is in the area of nuclear physics and he will be studying the properties of the nucleus of heavy hydrogen, the Schrodinger cat paradox/the quantum Zeno effect, quantum mechanics, and the Chaos theory.



*Personal Touch is a collection of interesting news items of Redeemer College alumni. To submit your news of interest and photo (if desired), clip out the form below and send to: Images, 777 Garner Rd. E., Ancaster, ON, L9K 1J4. (Photos will be returned.)*

**Bruce '87 and Sharon (Top) '87 Gritter** and sons Travis, Connor and Evan celebrate God's goodness with the birth of Janessa Elizabeth, Aug. 5, '98. Address: 34789 Arden Drive, Abbotsford, B.C., V2S 2X9, E-mail: gritterb@uniserve.com

Wouda are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Nicholas Frederic Wouda, born October 5, 1998.



The Gritter family

**Theresa Meinen '92** married Tony Heida on July 11, 1998. Theresa is currently in her fifth year teaching math at Hamilton District Christian High School and Tony works in the Human Resources Dept. at the Hamilton General Hospital.

**John '93 and Kimberly '93 Maich** with their children Robert, Grace and Hannah are delighted to report that Kimberly has been accepted into the Master of Education in Educational Psychology (school counseling) at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

## NEWS OF INTEREST - personal touch

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your address published? ☐ Yes ☐ No

News of Interest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## staff & faculty NEWS

### Welcome to new staff

In the past few months, five new people have joined the staff of Redeemer College.

Redeemer alumna **Tracy Van Dijk '94** began working as junior accountant at the college in January. She graduated with a business major and comes back to Redeemer from Westbrook Ltd., where she was an accounts receivable clerk. She resides in Grimsby.

**Deb VanderKruk '97** is another alumna who has come back to the college to work. She is filling a maternity leave position as Student Life/Special Needs Coordinator where she is in charge of various projects including the work study program. Deb graduated with an honours French major and a minor in political science and she currently lives in Waterdown.



Van Dijk



VanderKruk



Botting



Schotsman



Gringhuis

**Michelle Botting '96**, also a Redeemer grad, has been hired as part-time administrative assistant in the Dooyeweerd Centre. Michelle graduated with an art major and minors in psychology and philosophy. She has done some volunteer copy editing for the centre in the past and will now be responsible for office administration and public relations there. She lives in Mississauga with her husband Darin who is set to graduate from Redeemer this year.

A fourth Redeemer alumna, **Sharon Schotsman '91**, has been hired as part-time International Student Services Coordinator and is responsible for pro-

viding services which will promote and facilitate the International Students' integration into the Redeemer College community. Sharon graduated from Redeemer with a psychology degree and a minor in social work. She grew up in India, as her parents were missionaries, and she currently lives in Hamilton with her husband Christopher and three daughters.

And **Doreen Gringhuis** joins the Redeemer Foundation staff as clerical assistant. Prior to working at Redeemer, she was an administrative assistant in the offices of Karsten Metal and Second Nature Designs. Doreen is a graduate of Hamilton Dis-

trict Christian High. She, her husband Jake and three daughters will be moving to Troy next month, a village just west of Dundas.

### Part-time faculty

In addition, the college welcomes its part-time faculty for the winter semester: **Dr. Renate Kok** (Art), **Dan Imiolo** (Business), **Derek Schuurman** (Computer Science), **Thea de Groot** (Education), **Dr. Linda Williams** (Education), **Dr. Adrian Guldemond** and **Herman Proper** (Education), **Helen Plaisier** (French), **John Templeton '93** (Mathematics), **Dr. Tom Settle** (Physics), **Stephanie Baker Collins** (Social Work), **Janet Clark** (Sociology), **David Antscherl** (Theatre), **David Van Belle '93** (Guest Director).



# My quest for *Le Dejeuner sur l'herbe*



Corine Vreugdenhil-Witteveen '96

So what can you do with an art major/minor?" This is a common question put to those of us who chose to study art at Redeemer College.

The obvious answer for some of us is to become an artist and/or to teach art, or to pursue careers in design, photography, advertising, etc. I have great respect for those who are able to turn their formal training in art into such careers. But many of us are simply not called to such careers and, therefore, will not *directly* do anything with our art education. Consequently, the better question for us is, "what can an art major/minor do for us?"

Along with an English major, I also completed an art major while at Redeemer. I am not an artist, nor does it look as though I will ever teach art or go into design or advertising... and I do not apologize for this. My studies in the arts at Redeemer have been invaluable to me both in and outside of my career. While in the program, I had the opportunity to work as the Art Department Curator. Each art exhibition needed to be organized, publicized, opened with a reception, and kept within budget. It is not difficult to come up with a long list of transferable skills gained from this work experience. I was able to use these skills to gain a position as an Event Coordinator for a To-

ronto conference management firm, where I was directly involved in the planning and organizing of a world telecommunications congress at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and Skydome. I believe that, in this project and in other work situations I have faced since, my study of the arts has allowed me to develop a creative approach to my work where I am always striving to accomplish assignments in an innovative way. That has been invaluable to me.

Perhaps even easier to describe is how my exposure to the arts developed in me an appreciation for the cultural environment and community in Toronto which I might not otherwise have had. Since moving to Toronto after graduation, I have had the opportunity to indulge my artistic cravings outside of work by sampling a wide variety of cultural activities—exhibitions at the Art Gallery of Ontario as well as at many smaller galleries, literary readings in a variety of venues, musical and theatrical productions, arts and crafts exhibitions and films ranging from popular to foreign. My exposure to the arts during my university years created in me a desire for cultural experiences. The fulfillment of these possibilities creates opportunities for delight and inspiration in my life that broadens the scope of my existence.

My greatest triumph this summer

was to finally examine up close a painting I had written about for an Art History paper at Redeemer College: Edouard Manet's *Le Dejeuner sur l'herbe II*. I had sought this piece in Paris without success and was finally able to see it as part of the Courtauld Collection which was on view this summer at the AGO. The thrill I experienced at the opportunity to examine the actual painting which I had admired for years is but one example of the way in which art can inspire and open up for me whole areas of delight.

I am also able to share such joys with my husband, Stephen Witteveen '95. Stephen had the opportunity to take two art courses as electives while studying business at Redeemer College, and he also appreciates these experiences. He was treated to a view of his favourite painting as well, Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergere*.

I firmly believe that my education at Redeemer College prepared me for life both in and outside of my work place. So although I am not employed specifically in the arts or in a related field, I would encourage current students and alumni of Redeemer College to learn and not be intimidated by this wonderful aspect of the human experience which can continue to provide opportunities for lifelong enrichment and delight.





## The Gift That Keeps On Giving!

Dear Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family God's richest blessings in 1999, and to thank everyone again who supported the work of Redeemer College during 1998. We value and appreciate your on-going prayers and financial support, especially as we begin another new year.

I am writing the entire Redeemer community at this time to tell you about our **Scholarship Endowment Fund**, an exciting new opportunity for you to help the College provide more financial help to more students both now and in the future.

Redeemer now provides over \$600,000 in financial assistance to students directly from its operating budget in the form of scholarships, bursaries and work-study opportunities. Last year we received over \$500,000 in donations (mostly from churches) to meet this need, leaving a \$100,000 need to be met from other sources. As our enrolment increases year by year and student costs rise, this gap will grow and put increasing pressure on our already stretched operating budgets. This must change if we are to continue to keep costs as low as possible for both current and future students. That is why we are introducing the **Scholarship Endowment Fund**.

Your gift to the Scholarship Endowment Fund, no matter how big or small, will provide on-going benefit to students while giving a lasting testimony to your commitment to Christian education. While some institutions require large donations for funds to be endowed, your gift of **\$25, \$50, \$100 or more**, when pooled together with others, will make a significant difference to students for years to come. **Therefore, it is truly the gift that keeps on giving!**

Over the years a strong and growing endowment fund will allow Redeemer to offer more competitive scholarships to attract more students. For those needing financial assistance, it could make the difference between receiving a quality Christian university education at Redeemer and having to attend a secular institution. For others, it could allow them the opportunity to concentrate full-time on their studies in order to qualify for advanced degrees.

...over

---

### Redeemer College Scholarship Endowment Fund

Yes, I/we would like to help Redeemer establish a **Scholarship Endowment Fund** that will provide financial assistance to students both now and in the future. Here is my/our gift of:

☐ \$25   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$100   ☐ \$500   ☐ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of payment:

☐ cheque   ☐ post-dated cheques

☐ pre-authorized payment (please mail info.)

☐ Mastercard / Visa (circle one):

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Each February we plan to give you the opportunity to contribute to the *Scholarship Endowment Fund*. We will also provide a report on the status of the fund so you can see first hand how your donations have grown.

We don't intend this to put a strain on our faithful supporters, but it is a special opportunity for those who wish to contribute for the sole purpose of helping students. It is also an opportunity for donors who prefer their donations not be used for current needs.

Please give this your prayerful consideration! To help Redeemer establish the *Scholarship Endowment Fund*, please complete the response form and mail it with your donation in the enclosed postage paid envelope. If you would like more information on how to make a *planned or deferred gift* to the College, please check the appropriate box(es) on the response form below and we will provide you with the information needed.

We thank the Lord for our growing support community which now includes our alumni, as a growing new generation of contributors to the College. Our *Scholarship Endowment Fund* gives all of us the opportunity to give a gift that will keep on giving for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration and may the Lord richly bless you and your family throughout this new year.

Sincerely,



Justin D. Cooper  
President



JDC/lg

*P.S. We have designated an entire page of this month's Images to further explain the benefits and importance of our new Scholarship Endowment Fund. (see page 7)*

**Redeemer College - 777 Garner Rd. E., Ancaster, ON, L9K 1J4 - (905) 648-2131 - [www.redeemer.on.ca](http://www.redeemer.on.ca)**

### ***Planned or Deferred Giving Response Form***

Please check the appropriate box(es) below to indicate how we can further assist you:

- ☐ I have made a provision in my will for Redeemer College.
- ☐ I am considering a provision in my will for Redeemer College.
- ☐ Please contact me about charitable annuities.
- ☐ Please provide me with a "sample will clause" for a specific gift.
- ☐ Please provide me with a "sample will clause" for the establishment of a special scholarship.
- ☐ Please contact me about a gift of life insurance for Redeemer College.

For more information call **Ben Stegemen**, Director of Stewardship & Planned Giving, Redeemer College  
at **1-800-263-6467 ext. #205**.

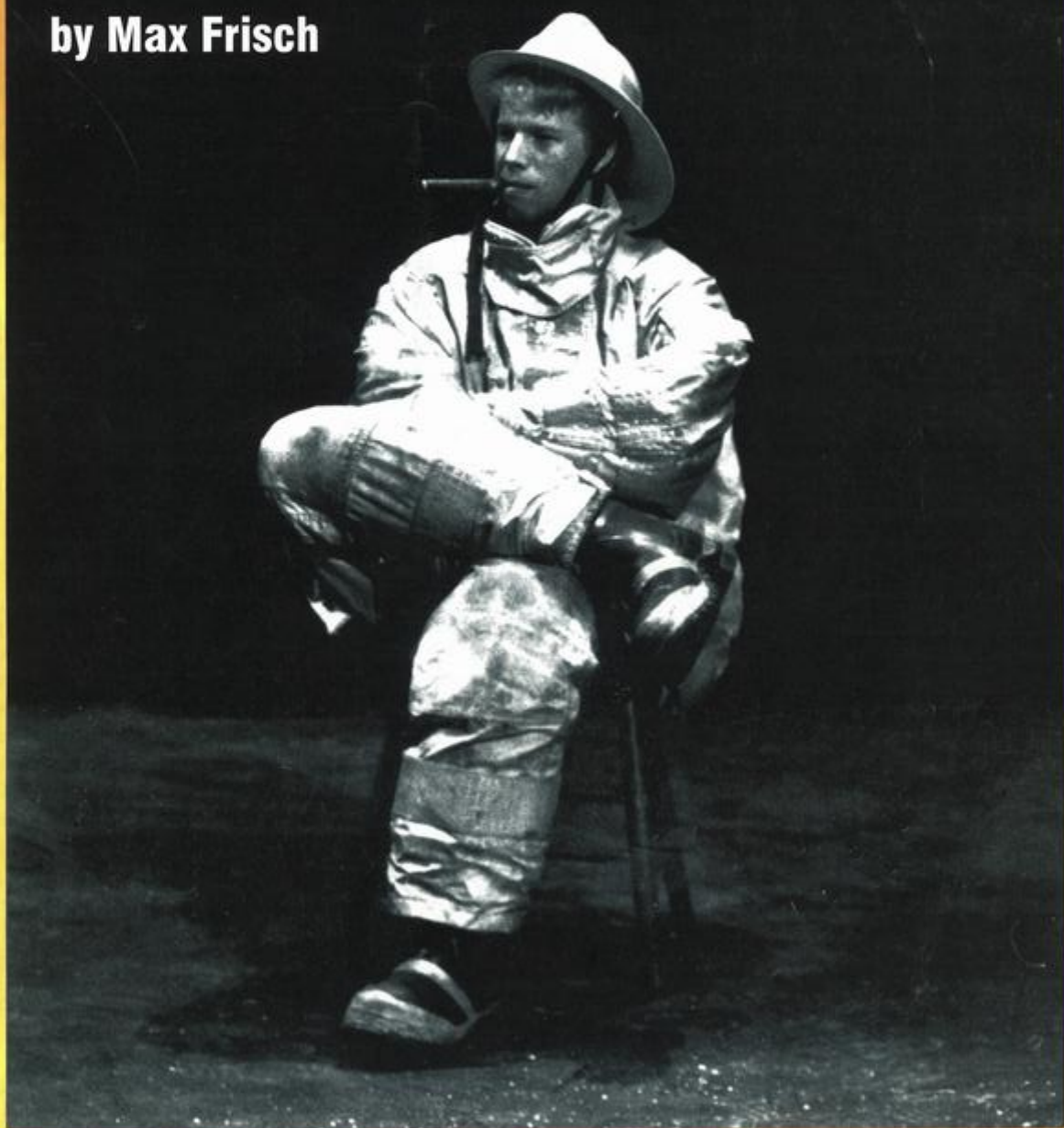


The Redeemer College Theatre Arts Department presents

# firebugs

a learning play without a lesson

by Max Frisch



**March 25-27, 1999** (preview Mar. 23, matinee Mar. 24)

**Tickets: \$10 + tax (\$8 sr./st.) - Call (905) 648-2139 x211**